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International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

Letter dated 20 December 2010 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of resolution 1955 (2010), adopted unanimously by the Security Council at its 6447th meeting, held on 14 December 2010, which reads:

The Security Council,

Taking note of the letters to the President of the Council from the Secretary-General dated 13 October 2010 (S/2010/513) and 23 November 2010 (S/2010/598), attaching letters from the President of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda ("the International Tribunal") dated 20 and 23 September 2010, and 12 November 2010, respectively,

Recalling its resolutions 955 (1994) of 8 November 1994, 1165 (1998) of 30 April 1998, 1329 (2000) of 30 November 2000, 1411 (2002) of 17 May 2002, 1431 (2002) of 14 August 2002, 1717 (2006) of 13 October 2006, 1824 (2008) of 18 July 2008, 1855 (2008) of 19 December 2008, 1878 (2009) of 7 July 2009, 1901 (2009) of 16 December 2009, and 1932 (2010) of 29 June 2010,

Recalling in particular its resolutions 1503 (2003) of 28 August 2003 and 1534 (2004) of 26 March 2004, in which the Security Council called on the International Tribunal to take all possible measures to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010,

Taking note of the assessment by the International Tribunal in its Completion Strategy Report (S/2010/574) that the Tribunal will not be in a position to complete all its work in 2010,

Noting that four permanent judges will be redeployed to the Appeals Chamber and that one permanent judge will leave the International Tribunal upon the completion of the cases to which they are assigned,

Convinced of the advisability of extending the authorization granted to the Secretary-General in resolution 1901 (2009) to appoint additional ad litem judges to the nine ad litem judges authorized by the Statute of the International Tribunal, as a temporary measure to enable the International Tribunal to complete trials and conduct additional trials as soon as possible in order to meet the goals of the Completion Strategy,

Urging the International Tribunal to take all possible measures to complete its work expeditiously,

Noting the concerns expressed by the President of the International Tribunal about the loss of experienced staff, and *reaffirming* that staff retention is essential for the timely completion of the International Tribunal's work,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that, notwithstanding the expiry of their term of office on 31 December 2010, Judge Joseph Asoka de Silva and Judge Taghrid Hikmet are authorized to complete the *Ndindiliyimana et al.* case which they began before the expiry of their term of office; and *takes note* of the intention of the International Tribunal to complete the case in March 2011;

2. *Decides* that, notwithstanding the expiry of his term of office on 31 December 2010, Judge Joseph Masanche is authorized to complete the *Hategekimana* case which he began before the expiry of his term of office; and *takes note* of the intention of the International Tribunal to complete the case in January 2011;

3. *Decides* that in order for the International Tribunal to complete existing trials or conduct additional trials, the total number of ad litem Judges serving at the International Tribunal may from time to time temporarily exceed the maximum of nine provided for in article 11, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the International Tribunal, to a maximum of twelve at any one time, returning to a maximum of nine by 31 December 2011;

4. *Reiterates* the importance of the International Tribunal being adequately staffed to complete its work expeditiously and *calls upon* the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to work with the Registrar of the International Tribunal in order to find practicable solutions to address this issue as the International Tribunal approaches the completion of its work, and at the same time *calls upon* the International Tribunal to renew its efforts to focus on its core functions;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

(Signed) Susan E. Rice
President of the Security Council